

THE DEFENDER

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The Defender

views the news

comment on vital issues of the day

As The Defender goes to press, measures are being taken by Congress and the Pentagon to implement the administration plan for meeting the Berlin crisis. Earlier President Kennedy had called on the American people for sacrifices for many years. Although he did not place the country on a war footing as such, the President took steps to make America an armed camp.

Worldwide defense of freedom requires massive U.S. effort: more young men to fill stepped-up draft quotas, interrupting plans for studies and careers; a return to active duty of reserve units and some National Guard units and over three billions in appropriations for military spending. Half of this money goes for conventional arms to fight non-nuclear, limited wars.

The space race continues in the spotlight. While the nation talks about the suborbital jaunt of Captain Virgil I. Grissom, Russia's Yuri Gagarin takes "popularity" propaganda tours of England and Cuba. ... Moscow now claims that the U. S. satellites whizzing over Russia are indicative of "armed aggression." These satellites -- the Midas III and Tiros III units -- are "spies," says Russia. One thing is sure: Russia can't shoot them down as it claimed it did the U-2 reconnaissance plane piloted by Captain Gary Francis Powers.

Hostilities in Tunisia over the big French naval base at Bizerte threatens another crisis. President Bourguiba of Tunisia wants the French to evacuate the naval base. One ominous danger here: Nassar of Egypt, while a bitter personal enemy of Bourguiba, has offered assistance to Tunisia against France. This could get big. ... The Bizerte episode, observers say, offers an uncomfortable pattern for the U. S. position at Guantanamo, Cuba. Should Castro assault it, we would be obliged to defend it. But this no doubt would bring the same massive support by the Latins of South America as France's defense of Bizerte has brought total Arab backing for Tunisia's Bourguiba.

If anyone has any doubts about federal control of education, once an aid-to-education bill is passed, let him take a good look at what is happening in Newburgh, New York. Local officials at Newburgh want to put recipients of relief to work. But federal welfare rules don't encourage states to put these people to work. In fact, the bureaucrats in Washington refuse to contribute matching funds if a state, in administering a federally supported program, demands recipients work for their welfare. Washington, it seems, is bent on taking tax money from people who do work and turning it over to those who don't work. Bureaucrats do not change. Their attitude toward local school board officials would be no different from their attitude toward local welfare officials.

Not everyone is happy at the thought of spending \$1.7 billion to send a man to the moon. No less an authority than Major Alexander P. de Seversky thinks that the U. S. ought to utilize its resources to develop a defense against missiles. He says that detection of air and space vehicles is now possible and that no matter how fast a vehicle streaks through air or space, it can be stopped.

THE DEFENDER

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GERALD B. WINROD, D.D., FOUNDER

August, 1961

Publisher's Comment

Contrasting Attitudes

BY GWYNNE W. DAVIDSON, D.D.

President

Defenders of the Christian Faith, Inc.



DURING THE DAYS of His ministry on earth, Jesus found the attitudes of people toward Him greatly in contrast. Some of the people were for Him; others were against Him.

For example, in Luke 8:40, we read, "And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him."

The attitude of these people, who stood by the lakeshore in Galilee, is clearly indicated. They were eagerly waiting for His return. They gladly received Him. They realized that He could do something for them that no one else could do.

Now let us attach ourselves to a crowd of people on the other side of the lake. It is a place called Gadara. Jesus had cast the devils out of a tormented man who lived naked among the tombs. The man is clothed and in his right mind. An insane derelict is now a useful citizen.

BUT WHAT A DIFFERENCE in the attitude of the people. They were filled with fear and hatred. In Luke 8:37, we read, "The whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them."

For His part, Jesus looked upon the people with compassion, no matter how they regarded Him, seeking always to meet their needs.

On the Galilee side of the lake, the people eagerly awaited Him and gladly received Him. On the Gadara side, they wanted Him to leave them alone. Thus Jesus was caught between a crossfire of love and hate, of greetings and hootings. He was caught between the attitude of those who were eager for His appearance and those who desired His departure.

Why would anyone want to get rid of Jesus? The people of Gadara had their reasons. And so had others.

Many people of His day thought that Jesus would lead them in a revolt against the oppressive Roman rule. When they realized that they could not bend Him to their way of thinking, or use Him to secure their own ends, many of them ceased to be attracted to Him and became contemptuous of His gospel. They said in effect, "We will not have this man to reign over us."

RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE and pride caused other people of His day to want to get rid of Jesus. He taught things contrary to what they had always believed. They were case-hardened by their tradition and would recognize no authority but their own. Still other people wanted to get rid of Jesus because He opposed their selfish, worldly interests. Their lives were cluttered with self-seeking and they had no interest in the claims of Christ.

Mixed reaction to the person of Jesus Christ still exists. He confronts men and women today with the same challenge...with the same decision to make. Where do you stand, *reader friend*? Is the attitude of Galilee — or of Gadara — representative of your feeling toward the Son of God? Are you waiting for... or hiding from Him?

Let me say with all my heart that He can do for you what no one else can do. He is the only refuge from the storms of life. His way represents all that is best for you...for time and eternity. If you have not already done so, put your trust in Him this day as your personal Saviour.

Crime on the Increase in Washington, D. C.

THE NATION'S CAPITAL is becoming a happy hunting ground for criminals. There has been a spectacular increase in crime and some sections of the city are unsafe for pedestrians after dark. The city's police carry on a valiant battle, making many arrests, but see a large percentage of their prisoners set free by the courts.

Washington police have an "intolerable limitation" in trying to cope with mounting Washington crime, according to Rep. John Dowdy of Athens, Texas, a member of the House District of Columbia Committee, which is holding hearings on the crime situation.

Two developments have lent force to this rapid increase in crime. The Negro population of Washington has risen rapidly. In relation to percentage of white and black population of the city, a disproportionate number of crimes are committed by Negroes.

Also, under the guise of protecting civil rights, courts have rendered some extreme opinions which are freeing criminals. The Supreme Court, for example, has set a rule drastically limiting the time that a suspect can be held for questioning. Worse, it insists that the prosecution prove that a defendant was free of mental disease at the time he committed a crime. (It will be recalled that the Supreme Court leaned partly

on the theories of the radical Swedish sociologist, Karl Gunnar Myrdal, in its school-segregation ruling.)

ANOTHER DARK ASPECT of the Washington condition is that it is part of a nationwide situation. At the bottom is the widespread tendency to free the individual citizen from all responsibility for both his own welfare and his attitude and actions toward the society in which he lives. Individuals are guaranteed a living and an old-age competence regardless of how little intelligence and industry they exercise for the present or how much they have for the future. Even children are being released from discipline in the home and in school. As the people turn more and more toward the theories of socialistic government, they are softening the individual moral fiber that made this a great country.

Possibly our own eyes are too close to the picture to get the significance of it, *but the world is taking notice of it.* Nothing could be worse for our international prestige than for our national capital to become our chief crime center. If our representatives in Congress cannot do something about it, we have strong evidence that our whole country is slipping more rapidly than most citizens seem to realize. —DALLAS NEWS

A Lawless Generation

Crime reached an all-time high in the U.S. during 1960 . . . with an astounding 98 percent increase over 1950 while the population rise during this decade was only 18 per cent.

Criminal elements are growing. For every 100,000 population there were 3,640 arrests in 1960. Arrests

of juveniles have more than doubled since 1950.

The present generation is indeed a lawless one. The upsurge in lawlessness, the epidemic proportions in moral decay, is not an unexpected condition. Bible students know the closing days of this age are to be characterized by unprecedented violence.

Not only are we witnessing a period of national shame but also the fulfillment of prophecy.

Apples of Gold

Wouldn't it be nice if we could find other things as easily as we can find fault?

The secret of economy is to live as cheaply the first few days after payday as you did the last few days before.

Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself.

—Emerson

Fear is a wild horse that needs a tight rein, for it is both friend and foe, both good and evil, and to live effectively a man must learn to master it.

A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs. He is jolted disagreeably by every pebble in the road.

—Beecher

He who hopes to avoid all failure and misfortune is trying to live in a fairyland; the wise man realistically accepts failures as a part of life and builds a philosophy to meet them and make the most of them.

You can't pursue happiness and catch it. Happiness comes upon you unawares while you are helping others.

To successfully manage others, a man must first manage himself. Personal efficiency is creative self-management. It is not getting ahead of others, but getting ahead of yourself.

A leader is a self-starter. He creates plans and sets them in motion. He is both a man of thought and a man of action — both dreamer and doer.

Each moment of your life is a brush stroke in the painting of your growing career.

The Defender

Moral character and the spiritual quality of our living may deteriorate and reveal serious losses when examined in the light of God's word

WARNING SIGNS OF HIDDEN LOSSES

BY DR. PAUL S. REES

TEXT: *Strangers have devoured his strength and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.*— HOSEA 7:9

WITH THIS ARRESTING figure of speech, an ancient prophet confronts us with one of life's most sobering facts — the facts, namely, that moral character and the spiritual quality of our living may deteriorate by degrees so slow or so slight that we scarcely recognize the loss.

Not all of our failures, to be sure, are of this kind. Sometimes a tall soul, that has stood erect and kingly for God in the community, crashes in a moral disaster that is as terrible to think about as it is plain to see. Yet, if the facts were fully known, it would be found that even in such cases the open ruin had been preceded by hidden crumbling of character covering weeks or months or years.

Hosea's complaint against Israel is not out of date. I want us to take it to ourselves and let it measure us: "Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not."

TO BEGIN WITH, think of some of the spheres of experience in which this kind of deterioration and loss takes place. Consider nations, for example. One may logically mention this first because it was to a nation, no less, that the message of our text was first delivered.

With the keen eye of a prophet of God, Hosea looked at Israel, the Northern Kingdom. What he saw filled him with grief and alarm. The Kingdom of the Ten Tribes had broken away from Judah as a protest in behalf of liberty and against tyranny. That was about two centuries earlier. In these years the nation, which began so vigorously and ambitiously had mingled with the heathen, copied their fashions and served their gods.

The effects of this compromise with paganism were several, but chiefly this: the pure tradition of the reli-

gion of Jehovah had been more and more set aside and with the setting aside had gone the progressive dissipation of Israel's moral strength. Considered as a people, Israel's glory was fading. Israel's dream was dying. Israel's hand was growing weaker. Israel was becoming morally senile. And yet, cries the prophet, there are few, if any, who realize that this process of spiritual decay is going on. The losses that are taking place seem to be hidden from the eyes of those who suffer them.

IN HIS EARNEST book *Alternative to Futility*, Professor Elton Trueblood is speaking not alone of America but of western civilization as a whole when he says: "All who think seriously about the matter are agreed that decay has set in." Thus it may be seen that nations and cultures are repeating the folly of ancient Israel, of which the prophet complained with an aching heart.

Professor Trueblood goes on to say: "Lacking the joy that comes from meaning and purpose, we turn to all kinds of wretched substitutes. Thus we cultivate the sensual arts to an absurd and revolting degree. A reasonably accurate index of our level of decadence is provided by the ubiquitous advertisements of whisky, with their emphasis on delicate shades of flavor, and by the fantastically expensive advertisements of perfume."

Let America search its soul, if it will. "Strangers have devoured his strength yet he knoweth it not."

We are developing, as Americans, what might be called a "hypo" culture. Much of what we do, whether it is in Washington or Hollywood, is in the nature of a "shot in the arm." The old-fashioned virtues of hard work and honesty are passe, so we must have the government patch up with legislation a torn and troublesome industrial order.

Marriage and the home are breaking down, so we must consume more sleeping tablets and gulp larger slugs of liquor. Meanwhile, the prophets of the Lord, whose services never rate high when they collide with man's pride and inertia, are given the run-around.

Let the churches, too, search their hearts. Let them honestly face the fact that the burning of chapels and the persecuting of Christians, as practiced by Communists, is not the only way to hurt religion. Dry rot in the pulpit and the pew will do it even more certainly.

Bernard Iddings Bell is not putting it too harshly when he says: "It is time that Christians shake themselves free from that polite inertia of self-contained ecclesiastical routine, which matters not at all to most of those who try to carry on the world's business, and endeavor to see what in churchly attitude has caused men and women to ignore the Christian message." (*The Church in Disrepute*, p.1). Yes, these hidden losses in spiritual discernment and dynamic need, at last, to be recognized.

THERE IS, HOWEVER, another direction in which we must look as we survey the areas of experience in which slow and subtle spiritual deterioration takes place. It is in the sphere of our personal living. Some time ago, while on my way home from a call, I happened to tune in on the radio dramatization of the Bible known as "The Light of the World." That day it was the story of Samson that was being presented.

Once more, as I listened to the broadcast, I was struck with the purpose which, I am sure, the Holy Spirit had in giving us this tragic narrative. Samson — the man who let an impure woman gradually destroy the reverence he had for his religious vows! Samson — the man who kept toying with compromise until, by degrees, he was weaker than he realized! Samson — the man who, when finally he did yield completely to the seductions of Delilah, had no idea of the enormity of his sin! Samson — the man who though stripped of his strength, went about as though nothing had gone wrong! Samson — the man who, when it was too late, discovered that he was powerless before his enemies and helpless to stave off disaster!

It is this sort of unrealized, or at most half-realized, corrosion of our character, this hidden damage done by moral termites within our souls, that is so powerfully portrayed in the story of Samson.

Are you sure that the deadly process is not going on in *your* life? Remember this: ideals that once shone brightly before your eyes, planted there by Jesus Christ, do not as a rule drop out of your sky with a sudden plop; instead they slowly lose their luster as you ignore them or trifle with them, until at length they seem to have no special importance or authority in your life.

Your loyalties to God and to the church are rarely seized by your bare hands and thrown down for your careless feet to trample upon; no, they are first weakened by small yieldings to something less than the best, by minor compromises, by tiny cowardices and by seemingly insignificant surrenders.

Hidden losses! We dare not ignore them. We dare not be silent about them. Whether it be in the life of nations, or churches, or individuals, the peril is real.

Salt that has lost its savour may weigh just as much as it did before, but something too subtle for the weighmaster's scales to detect has gone out of it.

IF NOW IT SHOULD be asked, what are the signs of hidden spiritual failure? I think there are some things for which we should keep a sharp eye.

One sign that should always disturb us is growing carelessness about the devotional side of our lives. I think this is particularly true when it concerns our private devotions. "When thou prayest," said Jesus, "enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which seeth in secret" (Matthew 6:6). Perhaps the first indication that the soul is not doing well is the let-down in the life of prayer and of Bible meditation.

A second sign of inward deterioration is a more tolerant conscience. Sometime ago I read a book in which there was a chapter entitled "Take Out Your Conscience and Look at It." It contained a lot of good sense.

For instance, the author said, "Your conscience is very gullible when you begin talking to it." That is sadly true. The function of conscience is never to tell us what is right or wrong. Its simple function is to provide us with a God-given urge to do right. Please remember, therefore, that what your conscience tells you is an echo of what you have been telling your conscience. That is why it is of such immeasurable importance that you let Jesus Christ talk to your conscience, and keep it "shored up" where it belongs.

A while ago a businessman told me that a corporation representative made to him the following statement: "There isn't any business ethics such as we knew years ago." I think that is an exaggeration, but it holds too much truth. Not long ago an American actor confessed, "I am now so broadminded that I do not know the difference between right and wrong." That is merely the last way-station on the road to hell. Long before a man goes that far, there are secret deteriorations in his life, one sign of which is an increasingly lax conscience.

A third symptom of hidden spiritual decline may be found in a growingly critical attitude. I do not now refer to the wholesomely critical temper that St. Paul had in mind when he said, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:21).

I am speaking, rather, of the fault-finding disposition, which breaks out in a superior, carping tone when you mention the devout religious people with whom you disagree. It reveals itself in a picking, grumbling, sour appraisal of preachers, churches and sacred things in general. Perhaps you are shrewd enough to hit upon some real weakness. But there is another "perhaps." Perhaps you think you see spots in the sun when it's merely the specks of dirt on your own glasses.

If people only realized what every psychiatrist knows about habitually critical individuals! The habit is almost invariably an escape device by which the subconscious mind of the critic is trying to relieve itself of

its own feelings of guilt or inferiority. Certainly, that is not a healthy sign. It might tell you, if you would stop and listen, that spiritual impairment has begun in the interior of your soul.

Carelessness in the devotional life, callousness of conscience, criticalness of spirit — these are warning signs of hidden losses in the life of the Christian.

ONE MORE MATTER details us: what are the steps to be taken if we are to recognize these concealed losses, and experience the recovery that we need?

1. *Take time to think.* In one of the verses leading up to our text, Hosea charges Israel with sheer thoughtlessness. He hears God say: "And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness" (7:2).

We are easily snared by circumstances which we do not take time to analyze. We achieve certain goals and gain certain successes, but we do not stop to reflect that these victories at one level of life were won at too high a price — the price of failure at other levels.

For example, a Christian layman is getting rich. All observers can see that. But do they see that in the process of gaining wealth a beautiful serenity and modesty has gone out of his life? What is more important, does *he realize it*? What are riches in the bank when rest has gone out of the soul?

2. *Look in God's mirror.* If you really want to know whether the gray hairs of spiritual deterioration

and feebleness are beginning to show, take a courageous look into God's Word. See yourself reflected there, especially in the life, the character, the teachings, and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord.

See the whiteness of His holiness. What image of yourself does that flash back to you? See the seriousness of His moral purpose, the unselfishness of His conduct, as He declares, concerning His own, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:16). What image of yourself does that bring back to you?

See the simple beauty of His life of prayer and His communion with the Father. What image of yourself does that cast back in your eyes? All this, and more, is in the mirror of the Scriptures. It is there for our learning and profit.

3. *Ask God for a promise.* When the sense of failure is upon the soul and is humbly confessed, what faith needs for recovery is a clear-cut assurance from God — something to guarantee forgiveness and the freshness of a new beginning.

There are many such promises in the dear Book, but we need not go outside of Hosea for one of the most tender and reassuring. The same merciful Father who says in our text, "Gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not," says also, "I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon" (14:4,5).

CARELESSNESS CAN BE FATAL

Some action of ours
may bless or curse
someone today

By WILLIAM S. DEAL

MR. WILFRED GRENFELL, missionary doctor in Labrador, received a new motorboat from some friends in England to aid him in his work.

The very night the boat arrived, he was called to visit a sick woman desperately ill on one of the ice-bound islands. Fighting his way through icy seas, carefully following the compass of his new boat, he suddenly realized that he was lost. Hours passed in the frigid darkness before

he could find his way to the tiny island where the suffering patient lay. When he reached it, the woman was dead. He had reason to believe had he arrived in time, he could have saved her life.

Later when the boat was examined, it was discovered that the compass had been deflected from its proper position and thus had caused the doctor to arrive too late. Further investigation revealed that in far away England, a careless workman had used a steel screw to fasten the compass to the boat instead of the proper brass one. The steel screw had been the trouble.

One careless act had cost hours of anguish and the untimely death of one who might have lived. Who can know the sorrow and grief that this one careless act caused!

LIFE IS MADE UP of a careless series of small actions many of which are so related to life as to be of tremendous importance. Our influence, for instance, may be the means of the salvation or damnation of souls. Our words likewise may be freighted

with weal or woe to those affected by them. Our deeds are laden with powerful possibilities for good or bad.

No day passes but that some action of ours may bless or curse someone. Life is a far more serious matter than many take it to be.

In the light of this, "What manner of persons ought ye (we) to be in all holy conversation and godliness?" (II Peter 3:11b) We must be careful yet not become stoic and so distant as to cause others to feel cool toward us, nor so flippant as to impress them that we know nothing of seriousness. We must take the middle course of a balanced way of life.

Our viewpoint must begin with Christ in us. He urges us to "forgive 70 times 7." He tells us to "go the second mile." He commands us "to go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." He teaches us that "he who converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death." And He suggests that we be careful to remove the beam from our own eye before we criticize others.

DO WE LIMIT GOD?

It is important to consider some ways in which

BY MANFORD EVANS

"THEY . . . LIMITED THE Holy One of Israel" (Psalm 78:41). Old Testament people limited God just as we New Testament people quite often do.

The Scriptures are filled with the failures of those who limited God in times of great crisis. It is unnecessary to compile the multitude of such failures. Readers of the Bible are well acquainted with them. As of now the important thing is to consider some of the many ways we moderns limit God.

Millions of messages on faith have been written and preached and yet the human family, to a large extent, proceeds to limit the Holy One of Israel. It is a far cry from "Abraham believed God" to "I believe God." It's the difference between a man who refused to limit God to seemingly impossible circumstances, to current Christians who continue to limit God, although they possess hundreds of precious promises in a Bible which hadn't yet been printed when Abraham, by faith, "went out, not knowing whither he went."

WE LIMIT GOD when we'd rather go fishing than go to work for the Lord. How is it that we have faith to go fishing for fish but very little faith to go fishing for men? True, Christ said He would make His disciples fishers of men. But He meant that for us just as much as He did for them.

Someone says, "But I have a job; I'm working every day; I haven't time to go fishing for men."

Very well, since the Lord has given you a well-paying job and has enabled you to own as big and showy a car as your boss; a nice home with all modern accessories; a hefty bank account; has it ever occurred to you that you actually could be a fisher of men by financially supporting the Lord's missionaries who already are out in difficult places doing that kind of fishing? *Are you limiting God?*

Then there are the many churchgoers who say, "Why should I worry about souls? I'm not a preacher. I'm not a Bible teacher. I'm not an evangelist. Why not let *them* worry about that business?" They may not know it, but surely they are limiting

God by limiting the work of the gospel to others.

That is not the way the believers in Acts eight operated. The Book says that when they were scattered abroad "they went every where preaching the word." To them "the word" was the "good news," and they had the faith and the vision to tell it to others. They actually were fishers of men. They did not limit the Holy One of Israel. They did not leave the work to the apostles. They supplemented the labours of the apostles.

GOD NEEDS PREACHERS, evangelists, missionaries and Bible teachers. But He also needs prayer warriors — believing ones who "stand in the gap" — in their daily intercessions at the Throne of Grace; praying for those who *do* preach, teach, evangelize and carry the gospel to all the ends of the earth; spreading "good tidings all around." In this very vital Ministry, are we daily praying the effectual, fervent prayer of the righteous? Or are we limiting God by being too busy about things of lesser importance?

IRREVERENT AMERICA

Americans approach holy
things with the casualness
of a day at the beach

AMERICA IS BECOMING more and more concerned about its relationship with God, *some say*.

Agree? How can you in the face of mounting evidence that materialism has become America's god, for it has first place in the hearts of the people. Actually, much of what we hear about increased spirituality is just surface noise.

As the Apostle Paul declared, we have known God, but not glorified Him; neither are we thankful, but have become vain, superficial, irreverent and even blasphemous in our attitudes.

To a great extent, Americans approach holy things and holy thoughts with the casualness of a day at the beach. False piety manifests itself before the American public in every area, but particularly in the songs we sing, in the philosophy of our "hero" writers, in the quotes of news personalities to whom we look for "wisdom."

CASE IN POINT: Juke box numbers include such titles as, "Hey Little Devil;" "I've Got Religion;" "Fellow Upstairs" and "Big Fellow in the Sky."

Case in point: Well known mag-

The Defender

ALCOHOL ON TRIAL

believers can limit God

Helpers or hinderers? God needs helpers. What a privilege to be a helper in the work of getting the glorious gospel out! It will take eternity to fully reveal the extent of the work of the willing helpers who were servants to the gospel because they loved God and the souls of mortals while still here on earth.

Some dear wife and mother says: "All I can do is prepare a good meal." God bless her! For how could a preacher or an evangelist or Bible teacher operate a successful, Scripturally-rounded ministry without the help of consecrated women standing by with the fried chicken and all the other things it takes to make up a good meal!

These are days when the ultimate weapon is not a new type of gadget to destroy peoples and nations. God is sovereign. God rules. God overrules the Satanic wiles and plans of ungodly men, whether they are in the Kremlin or someplace else. Do we believe this? If we do, let's not limit the Holy One of Israel. Let us pray and believe as we have never prayed and believed heretofore.

azine writer recalls a visit to Korea's troubled situation: "I felt wonderful because I knew somehow there were not four of us, but five of us in that jeep. And guess who the fifth passenger was. It was good old God."

The case rests upon Jane Russell's choice tidbit: "I love God. And when you get to know Him, you find *He's a living doll*."

America is on trial before Almighty God. Even at this moment, the storm clouds of His judgment are gathering. A superficial faith will not measure up in the hour of crisis. Nothing will save us but a living faith and a return to reverence.

August, 1961

WITH REFERENCE TO GOVERNMENT: South Carolina Senator Olin D. Johnson has protested the passage of a congressional bill to increase the State Department's entertainment allotment with the following warning: "I fear that more money might turn the U.S. Foreign Service into a bunch of pitiful, blurry-eyed, fuzzy-headed wrecks. It is a wonder things aren't worse in Washington, let alone in remote United States embassies. Persons in Washington have a merciless way of forcing guests into cocktail hours before every meeting, and as a result everyone must stand around in a din of conversation while everyone gets fuzzy-minded over cocktails."

WITH REFERENCE TO OUR YOUTH: American students are on the liquor bandwagon too! Not to be outdone by their adult sponsors, both high school and college students are "drinking up a river of alcohol" — enough to permanently pickle our entire generation (the last, perhaps) into complaisant immorality and ungodliness.

A report issued from the University of Kansas found that drinking students had received their first drink at the tender age of 16 *and at home*. Religion-wise, catholics drank both hard liquor and beer twice as frequently as protestants; environmental-wise, 56% from metropolitan high schools drank and 44% from rural imbibed. America has indeed slid far down hypocritical hill from the days when small town life was the wholesome place to raise a family.

WITH REFERENCE TO OUR ADULTS: According to Dr. Marvin A. Block, chairman of the American Medical Association's Committee on Alcoholism, more and more women are becoming alcoholics at an alarming rate — having doubled just in the past twenty years! "One out of every two or three alcoholics is a woman." And this is our children's view of the sanctity of American woman-motherhood.

WITH REFERENCE TO OUR EXPENDITURES: Sufficient reason alone for God's chastisement is the unbelievable statistic of our country's annual budget for liquor . . . \$9,000,000,000 (nine billion). For this same sum of money, a four dollar Bible could be placed in the hands of every human being in our world. This same nine billion could support 4,350,000 missionaries at a rate of \$2,000 each. Oh America — may God have mercy on us!

WITH REFERENCE TO LEGALITY: America can't even drink it honorably. One out of every five bottles consumed last year was boot-leg — 61,000,000 gallons!

IN CONCLUSION: Alcohol is an efficient remover. Household hinters advise the use of alcohol for removing certain stains from clothing, (which by the way should make us the cleanest dressed nation in the world). Alcohol's efficiency at removing things should not be limited to stains alone, however. It can be used also for the very clothing itself, as well as for all a families material possessions. Why alcohol can remove all items of man's ownership . . . home, family, job and even his soul!

Yes, the efficiency of alcohol as a remover will find fervent testimony from millions of souls in hell, who have found that it could even remove them from heaven's eternal joys!

STOP U.S. AID TO RED NATIONS

Financing their Red masters
will not liberate
the people behind
the Iron Curtain

By HARRY T. EVERINGHAM

A TEACHER WRITES: "Someone said that Americans are the world's most entertained people."

"I believe it. Otherwise, why would they let our 'leaders' in Washington do as they do? Now they're planning to send more of our billions overseas to Iron Curtain countries. I protested this to my Congressman recently and he wrote back: 'The Foreign Relations Committee approved President Kennedy's request for authority to extend financial and economic aid to Iron Curtain countries to help them loosen Moscow's control.' What can we answer to that?"

Dear Teacher: Tell your Congressman that any committee is more immoral than the average individual. Committees will do what the average individual wouldn't dare to do because they believe it is "the will of the majority" and each individual remains silent when he knows that he should protest.

ASK YOUR CONGRESSMAN to cite just one case where economic aid to an Iron Curtain country helped to loosen Moscow's control.

Surely we sympathize with the people of Cuba, Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, China and all others who have been enslaved. But financing their Red masters will not liberate them — in fact, the more basic necessities we provide for the people of Iron Curtain countries, the more money the Communists have for war mobilization.

We have given millions of dollars per year to Tito of Yugoslavia. Now he is spending millions in propagandizing new African nations to turn them toward Communism. He has shot down U.S. planes and will do it again if we fly too close. Why do we continue to send billions to Tito?

Why has the U.S. Special Fund agreed to help Red Cuba to get away from heavy dependence on sugar by diversifying its farm production? The Special Fund's annual budget runs about \$47 million. Has this helped to alienate Khrushchev and Castro? Certainly not! We have pictures of those tyrants with their arms around each other!

MANY ASK: "What can we do about it?" The people can raise their voice in protest!

Our good friend, Tom Anderson, publisher and editor of *Farm and Ranch* magazine, says: "Not in missiles, not in money, not in world government — but in the character of man lies the only hope for lasting peace in the world!"

St. Augustine said: "The times are evil; but live nobly, and you will change the times."

Theodore Roosevelt said: "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are!"

Every American should voice his protest to his Congressman about the foreign aid program to all but our allies.

Most Congressmen are politicians who will do anything to be re-elected. If our protest is strong enough on the side of right, they will even buck the administration to defeat the Kennedy bill to pour more billions of our tax dollars into Iron Curtain countries.

Ask your Congressman to read the book, *Teheran — Our Path in War and Peace* — written in 1944 by Earl Browder, former head of the Communist Party in the U.S. Here Browder advocated the foreign aid giveaway program for the United States.

Also remind your Congressman that as early as 1921 Nicholas Lenin made this ominous prophecy: "Some day we shall force the United States to spend itself into destruction."

BY REV. KENNETH GOFF

What Will

The persecution of
Christians in Russia
sheds light upon
the question

WHAT WILL HAPPEN to Christianity should America fall to Communism?

We totally agree in spirit with those who rebel from even considering such a possibility, for our country has indeed been the land of the free and the home of the brave!

However, we invite thoughtful attention to the frightening worldwide progress made by Communism and to Khrushchev's own threat — "We will bury you!" No doubt these words were satanically inspired.

Some light can be shed upon such a possibility by re-examining the persecution of Christians endured in Russia following the October rebellion of 1917.

Communism's heaviest and most violent attack was launched against the church itself. Passions were inflamed and hatred generated by the inhuman cry: "Banish God from the skies and capitalism from the face of the earth."

The years from 1917 through 1922 saw the leadership of both Catholic and Protestant churches virtually wiped out, with 180,000 of the clergy either imprisoned or liquidated.

This satanically inspired persecution spread across the land, accompanied by blasphemous songs about Christ and the burning in effigy of our blessed Saviour. In fact, during one of the daily demonstrations, Joseph Stalin himself rode through

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ill Happen to Christianity If Communism Wins?

the streets of Moscow dragging behind him an effigy of Christ. Such persecution marches were usually followed by drunken mobs carrying the banners, "Throw God in the dump" and "We have dethroned God—now we shall destroy his saints."

Clergymen had their garments saturated in gasoline and were burned alive to the wild chant of "We shall grapple with the Lord in due season"—"We shall vanquish him in the highest heavens, and wherever he seeks refuge we shall subdue him forever"—"All religions, all Gods are the same stupefying poison, deadening the will, the spirit, and the conscience; implacable war must be waged upon them!"

WITH THESE BLASPHEMOUS battle cries ringing in their ears, angry mobs set out on a night of terror and bloodshed. Churches were pillaged and altars used as toilets, and in many cases, strip-tease dances and filthy scenes were enacted to show contempt for the house of God. Bibles, hymnals and prayer books were burned.

Christians were dragged from their beds, tortured and killed. Some were sliced to pieces, bit by bit; others were branded with hot irons. Eyes were poked out to produce untold pain.

Believers were placed in boxes with only their heads, hands and legs sticking out. Hungry rats were then placed in the boxes to gnaw upon their bodies. Some victims were nailed to the ceiling by their fingers or their feet and left hanging until they died of exhaustion. Others were chained to the floor and hot lead poured into their mouths.

Many were tied to horses and

dragged through the streets of the city, while the mobs pummeled them with rocks and kicked them to death. Hundreds of victims were misused so many times that they died on the spot or were mentally and physically incapacitated for the rest of their lives.

Many of the atrocities that took place are just too shocking to relate, especially the sadistic and immoral acts performed upon women and little children.

ACROSS THE LENGTH and breadth of Russia, millions of men, women and children perished. It was estimated that from 1917 to 1945 over 21 million Christians wrote their testimony for Christ with their own blood.

No sooner had this blood purge reached its zenith in Europe until the Communists moved into Asia, with the liquidation of nearly 35 millions there!

Has time mellowed the barbarism of Soviet godliness?

Have today's Communists given today's Christians any hope at all that the Reds will not continue their anti-religious persecution.

We need look no further than nearby Cuba for the latest evidence, as Castro and his regime apply oppressive measures and harass church leaders. As one priest wrote, "Nothing sacred is safe in Cuba today. Castro goon-squads storm into cath-

edrals and churches...feeling of terrorism is present on every hand."

AND WHAT OF MOUNTING evidence here on American soil?

Have not the Communists fiercely campaigned for the destruction of all religious faith? A dedicated Communist must embrace atheism and hate religion!

Modern liberalism plays into Communist hands by undermining the Christian faith. It teaches that Jesus was born to Mary through an illicit affair with a Roman officer; that Jesus was a Macabean who wanted to abolish Roman rule over Judea; that He was a member of the working class and a revolutionist, and that He practiced free-love.

It teaches that the Romans killed Him for attempting to seize control of the government; that the writers of the four gospels falsified and shaded their writings to accommodate the conditions of their time.

What will happen to Christianity should America fall to Communism? The answer is that history will repeat itself.

High time that the Christian community come to realize it is in a struggle against hell itself; that Communism is more than a political force; that it breathes the very spirit of anti-Christ.

(Please turn the page)



Rev. Kenneth Goff, a former Communist, speaks with authority in exposing Red activities in the United States. He now pastors a church in Englewood, Colorado, and also travels throughout the country, preaching and lecturing.

AMERICA'S MOST RECENT measurement of space achievement is 118 miles high by 303 miles long... a significant statistic as our nation endeavours to boost her morale, sagging beneath the weight of adverse world conditions.

Yes, American morale soared as Captain Virgil I. (Gus) Grissom successfully completed his 16 minute, 5,280 m.p.h. sub-orbital flight last month. The country's scientific muscles had also felt firm and strong under Navy Commander Alan B. Shepard's flexing, who previously was hurled 302 miles at 5,100 m.p.h. along the same flight pattern in May.

And there will be more free world applause should our "back-up" astronaut, Lieut. Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr., receive a chance to chart his own space dimensions on a third orbital journey.

IS THIS MUTUAL admiration wrong?

Certainly not! Our country's scientific genius has well earned world recognition as it has brought man strikingly close to space mastery and reduced the achievement lag established by Soviet Russia's Yuri Gagarin. Achievement always deserves recognition, but when achievement becomes an idol and is worshipped as the sole means of free world survival, it then spells certain and irrevocable disaster.

And this is precisely what America has done! We have become worship-

America's Dual-Headed Idol

Americans generally are looking
to human effort as the means
of victory over evil

BY WILLIAM YEAGER

ers of the dual-headed idol of scientific genius and military power. In this we have put our trust and aligned our spiritual loyalties.

God is all but forgotten in a land pulsating with the excitement of outdoing Russia through *man's own handiwork*.

REMEMBER THE WORDS of David, "The God of my rock; in Him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my Saviour; thou savest me from violence. I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be *saved from mine enemies*." (II Samuel 22:3,4.)

These words should be familiar, for they have been America's words. "In God we trust" is etched upon our silver and "God Bless America" is sung from hearts that once confessed dependency upon the Divine hand for power and blessing.

Now America has grown strong and in this strength and self sufficiency lies our greatest weakness. *It has caused us to forget our need for God!*

PRESIDENT KENNEDY has just signed a legislative bill appropriating 1.7 billion for further space development—as one congressman put it, "that the first moon man might be an American."

(From page 11)

IT IS OUR DUTY to oppose Communism wherever it raises its ugly head, "for it is very sin itself." While we Saints have the assurance of God that right will prevail in the end, we must remember that upon our shoulders falls the responsibility of occupying until the victory is won!

If we fail to defend, if we continue in our present religious apostasy and nation-wide sin—"having a form of godliness, but denying the power

thereof"—God may have to allow modern Assyria to chastise a people whose hearts have turned away from Him.

The question of what will happen to Christianity should America fall to Communism has been answered from the pages of past and current history. Whether or not such dreadful calamity falls upon us will depend upon the choice that our people make.

It is not too late to admit our guilt

and turn to God in repentance and obedience.

If America will do this—do it now, soul by soul, home by home—then we can appropriate the wonderful deliverance promise of II Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and *will heal their land*."

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Such gigantic expenditures (1,700 million) indicate the enormous appetite of our twin-headed false idol and offer little hope that man will ever put faith elsewhere. He is looking to science and the military solely as his deliverer from the onslaught of Communism.

Yet with all this fantastic preparation and planning, the unexpected may overtake us and perhaps cost our nation her life.

The unexpected, for instance, did overtake our most recent space flight—the capsule sank!

Yes, the unforeseen occurred and the two million dollar instrument-laden capsule was lost beyond hope of recovery in 16,800 feet of water, despite combined salvation efforts of both science and the military.

As Grissom swam away to safety he must have realized that science had overlooked something. Even with the magnitude of man's wisdom, the unexpected happened and he almost lost his life!

AMERICA COULD WELL lose her life, too, if scientific knowledge and military power are allowed to tinker around with matters that should be committed to God.

Loss of the space capsule was caused by some simple malfunction, which prevented 100% success of the flight.

America's destruction could well be caused by some such simple malfunction (not to mention the deliberate scheming of alien conspirators). We hardly can dare experiment in the face of so great a loss.

Let us remember the challenge of faithful David, "I shall call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: *so shall I be saved from mine enemies.*" At the same time, let us entrust the destiny of our world, nation, home and individual lives into the hands of an omnipotent God who alone is capable of such a responsibility!

God knows no lack and His wisdom of what is good for His children far surpasses ours. He is ready to hear and to grant our requests.

BY JOHN T. FLYNN



A Black Eye for Modern Education

Here is insight on the question
of why Johnny can't read

RECENTLY THE so-called "modern" educationalists got a black eye from which, let us hope, they never recovered. In fact, it was an amazing though perhaps unconscious confession of a terrible failure.

The trouble is that the failure involves not merely the modern educationists but millions of innocent victims—American children of the last 25 or 30 years. This particular episode has to do with the New York City public school system. But it concerns every school district in the United States—great numbers of them—where the modern educationists have managed to put over their weird theories and methods of how to teach, or rather not teach, your children to read.

The modern educationist's way of teaching reading has come to be known as the "look-see" method. The name is derived from dull and vapid reading texts which go something like this: "Look, look, look; see, see, see; oh, oh, see Johnny; look, look, see Mary;" and so on ad nauseum. This method is opposed to the old fashioned, traditional way of teaching reading. It tries, by repetition, to get youngsters to recognize words with no understanding of what goes to make up words.

UNDER THE TRADITIONAL method of teaching reading, youngsters were first given a solid grounding in what is called phonics—the alphabet, the sounds of each letter and each combination of letters. The result was that nearly every second and third grader could sound out and read practically any word in the language. Thus they were not confined to these contrived and boring modern "look-see" texts which are almost guaranteed to develop in all but the very brightest students an actual distaste for reading.

The results of this method of teaching reading are all about us, anyone willing to notice them—high-school graduates who can't spell because they were never taught (or taught too late) what goes to make up words; college students who cannot read properly, who must be given remedial English courses when they enter college; high-school and college students who cannot compose a half-decent English sentence.

The modern educationists' reply to all this is an involved *educationalese* about "reading readiness," pseudo-psychological explanations, growth in the school population and,

(Turn to page 18)

The Prayer Circle

COMPILED BY M. L. FLOWERS

The members of the Defender Prayer Circle believe God wants His people to obey His commands. One of these is that we pray for others, because "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." The prayers of the early Christians opened prison doors to release the Apostle Peter (Acts 12:1-19). "The Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save," said the prophet Isaiah. It only needs someone to take hold of it and claim His strength, even to "the pulling down of strongholds." (II Corinthians 10:5.)

Do you need the weapons of God to help fight your battles? Prayer Circle warriors stand ready. Please let us help with the weapon of prayer. God has honored and answered for others, and we know He will for you, if your needs lie within the scope of His gracious will. Write or telephone us.

T. B. G., Cincinnati, Ohio: I marvel how you accomplish so much and enjoy reading your good letters that are saturated with the depth of your spiritual life and your close walk with the Lord. After reading your letters I feel I have been lifted up to higher ground in my own spiritual life.

A. D. B., Richwood, Ohio: Your letter just received and I thank you for every word. The poem is just what I need. I have read it over three or four times already. For the past few months, the going has been very difficult for us, but we are thankful to be on the "go" again and I'm sure that "Don't Quit" will be a stimulant that will keep us on our toes.

G. W., W. Asheville, North Carolina: Your interesting letters are an inspiration. God will have an abundant reward for you and the other faithful ones at Defender headquarters.

C. G. S., Wooster, Ohio: Your good letter came today and I felt as if an old friend was writing me.

I. E. H., Ann Arbor, Michigan: Your wonderful letter arrived today, along with the poem, "Don't Quit" which I especially needed and profited by, reading it twice, immediately.

W. T., Royal Oak, Michigan: I have not been as faithful a prayer friend as I should have been but believe me, through the years, since 1951 (through a friend in Miami), your Prayer Circle has meant very much in my life. I do so trust you shall always remain a Prayer Circle, so many people depend on you... and I am sure you have accomplished some true miracles by prayer.

J. B. H., Bellefontaine, Ohio: Thank you for the poem, "Don't Quit." I really do not have any intention at 88 plus years of quitting.

Want to say in closing, I always enjoy reading what you write. It is never

just dull reading matter, but always has so much life in it—one feels a sort of up-lift, worth re-reading most of the time.

F. S., Phoenix, Arizona: My eyes filled with tears as I read your letter. What have I done and many others for the cause of Christ compared to what you have done in the many years past, and are still doing. Your reward will be great. Rev. 22:12.

N. S., Del Norte, Colorado: Your kind letter was thoroughly enjoyed, and I do know it is no easy role for those who have a heart in their work like you do.

E. E. M., North Canton, Ohio: God bless and help you in your Christian task of saving and winning souls for Christ.

M. H. H., Red Cloud, Nebraska: It was nice to have your good letter. My admiration to you for your faithfulness. May God bless you personally and also the entire staff in the ministry of Christian Education as sponsored by the Defenders.

C. R., Abilene, Kansas: I enjoyed the letter very much. Your good brothers and sisters down there have certainly been very faithful down through the years and I'm sure God has been with you.

J. E. S., Washington, Illinois: I must pause to thank you for that very fine heart to heart letter and the poem which was, it seems, timed perfectly, as it reached me just as I learned that one of my beloved grandsons was suffering from a nervous disorder.

A. G. M., Shreveport, Louisiana: Thank you for your prayers in behalf of my college girl that she might find her place. She has decided to go to summer school. I am sure God's power has given her the needed sense of purpose.

GOD'S STARS. By Fritz A. Callies. (Augsburg Publishing House. 48 pages, hard binding, 8½ x 11 inches, price \$1.95.)

FORTUNATE IS THE child whose parents early instill an interest and love for nature and teach him to look for beauty in everything. From the iridescent wing of the butterfly to the flashing flames of the diamond; from the delicate pastels of spring blossoms to the vivid sunset clouds, or from the tiniest speck of desert sand to the mighty star, Ras Algethi, 100 million times larger than our Sun—all of God's works testify to His power and majesty.

A child who is taught to see and love God's creation will never become a dull, unhappy, time-wasting adult.

Mr. Fritz A. Callies, a technical writer on space navigation systems, is the author of this lovely little book, dedicated to his "young friends from Church School."

Two whole pages are devoted to an index of Bible references used by the author, who has sprinkled them liberally on every page as well. Mr. Callies says, "Of course God didn't give the Bible to teach us about stars. It teaches about Jesus and how He saved us by dying on the cross for our sins and rising again. ... It uses the stars to remind us that 'great is our Lord and of great power: His understanding is infinite' (Psalms 147:5). ... I hope you will learn to love not only the stars but our mighty God who made them."

Seventeen stars or constellations are described, one page to each, with a hand drawn map on the facing page. Three pages are used to depict the nebulae, galaxies and space, with actual photographs through the great telescopes on Palomar and Mt. Wilson in California. The inside back cover is a clever sky map of the northern hemisphere, with an acetate wheel to help locate stars and constellations at any given hour of any month.

Father, mother, teacher: to give a child this book (or an adult, for that matter) and help him use it, is to open a door of understanding of the

The Defender

Defender Book Shelf

mighty works of God, whose heavens declare His glory and handiwork, as "day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge."

* * *

IT'S CHEAPER TO DIE. By William Michelfelder. (George Braziler, Inc., cloth binding, 192 pages, price \$3.50.)

THE AUTHOR OF THIS illuminating study on "Doctors, Drugs, and The American Medical Association" is a veteran newspaperman who has spent years of research on various aspects of organized medicine, and has discovered why any serious illness in the average-income family can be a financial catastrophe. He commends the multitude of fine, conscientious physicians who are devoted to their high calling and to their patients, but maintains that the practice of medicine and the business of medicine are entirely different matters.

Mr. Michelfelder explains the workings of the American Medical Association with all its subsidiary district and county organizations, and the manner by which these control the practitioner, the pharmacy and the hospital. Unless the doctor conforms he is ostracized, is labeled "unorthodox," cannot have staff privileges in hospitals and is denied certain types of insurance.

The A.M.A. has consistently opposed comprehensive medical care, such as the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York, using the bugaboo, "socialized medicine," and claiming that in it the patient has "no free choice of physician" and "becomes faceless medically and as a human being."

An interesting note reveals that more than half of the physicians in private practice are family doctors, yet less than 40 of them have a seat in the 192-member House of Delegates of the A.M.A. This is the body which establishes the policies for its 175,000 members. The remainder of the 192 delegates is comprised of specialists, medical diplomats and "medical politicians." These are consistent attendants at medical conventions, and constitute a hierarchy which controls the careers of the rank-and-file doctors.

"They no longer practice medicine, they practice medical politics," says Mr. Michelfelder. Another writer, a famous bone specialist, states, "The trouble with the A.M.A. is that a small group gets control and uses the organization to advance its own special ideas. I will always be against that because it can put all the members in a bad light."

THE QUESTION, "Why do prescription drugs cost so much?" is discussed. The findings may surprise the reader, but at the moment there seems to be nothing he can do about it. If he is unfortunate enough to need them, he pays the price, usually from 500% to 7,000% above the actual cost, because the druggist is also caught in the snare of the greedy top echelon promoters. This increase is partly the promotional cost by drug companies, like one which spent \$3,566,000 in advertising and selling costs to put on the medical market a "new" antibiotic exactly like others already in use, but under a new name and with new packaging.

All this money so used, say the producers, has helped people in so many ways that its value to them over balances the cost. Yet the neighbor-

hood pharmacist could compound from cheap ingredients the exact formula and greatly reduce the cost to the customer, were he not prevented by U.S. patents covering brand names.

A system of "fees for service" and "fee splitting" developed through the years, has contributed to the rising cost of illness. It has been declared unlawful in 23 states, but convictions are extremely rare "for the simple reason that well-meaning citizen legislators must rely on medical experts to judge a given situation." The Number One evil of this system is *unnecessary surgery*.

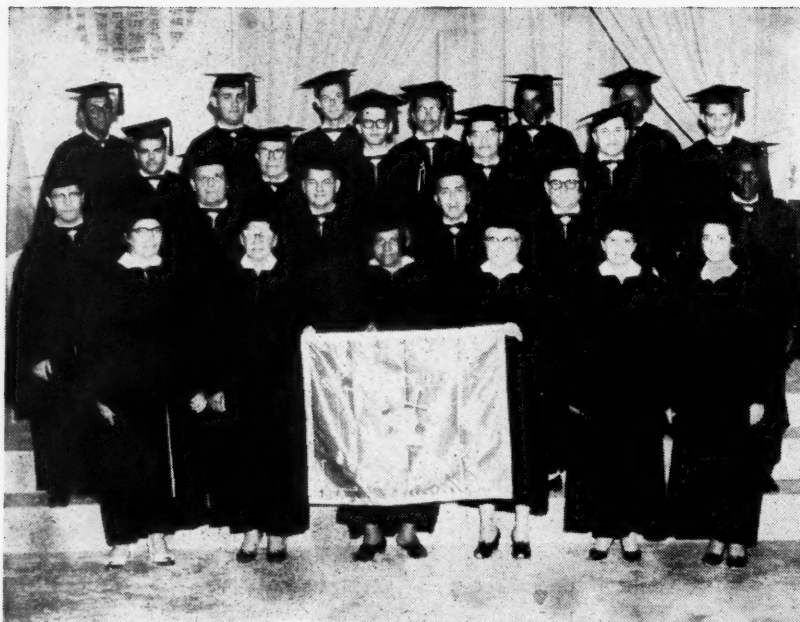
The 1959 report of the law division of the A.M.A. indicates that one out of every seven physicians is being sued for malpractice, with a total of \$50-million in liabilities breaking all previous records. This means that American patients are beginning to rebel against the present situation and to decide that modern improvements may be overemphasized in proportion to value received.

Examples are given of how organized medicine has come under fire as the A.M.A. has tried to dominate the thinking, not only of medical people, but the public in general. Revolutionaries, such as the American College of Surgeons, are going on record as not in harmony with A.M.A.

In conclusion, the words of Dr. Bernard M. Bernheim, for many years associate professor of surgery at John Hopkins University, are quoted, "Modern medicine has outgrown the structure erected to house it." And we would add the advice of a New York specialist to the author, "You say that the title of your book is *It's Cheaper to Die*. Should present conditions accelerate, I suggest you call the book *It's Cheaper to Die Fast!*"

Everyone owes it to himself and his family to read this revealing yet not sensational book, for sudden illness is no respecter of persons, and forewarning may hasten preparedness.

These volumes may be ordered from The Defender, Box 601, Oklahoma City 1, Oklahoma.



Front row from left to right: Emilia G. de Medina, María Romero de Cruz, Rafaela Pagani de Fonseca, Eladia Díaz de Román, María Monserrate García Rosa, Lydia E. Figueroa.

Second row: Aurelio Medina Martínez, José Lugo Millán, Felipe Meléndez Rodríguez, Miguel A. Ríos, Luis Díaz Díaz, José Rentas Canales.

Third row: Efraín Otero Lugo, Angel Montes, Armando Andrcu, Vicente Quiñones Arias.

Fourth row: Nicolás Velázquez, Victor P. Colón, Raul de Jesus Santiago, Urbano Ayala Tañón, Emilio Vázquez Delgado, Cruz Esquilip, Carmelo Márquez, Lauro Crespo Miranda.

Absent: Juan Montañez

Twenty-five Graduates at Defenders Theological Seminary

ON THE EVENING of May 12, the class of 1961, Defenders Theological Seminary, marched proudly down the aisle of Springer Hall to receive diplomas. The 25 members of the class were impressively robed in caps and gowns and carried a beautiful class banner.

The Seminary is located in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

Commencement exercises on May 12 climaxed three days of special services at the Seminary. Dr. J. F. Rodriguez, president of Defenders Theological Seminary and superintendent of Defender Missions in Puerto Rico, was in charge of the services.

Commencement speaker was Rev. Nicandro Gonzalez, who is pastor of the Puerto Nuevo Presbyterian Church.

Hearts warmed as the minister spoke on meeting the epoch challenge of the present hour.

No sooner were the commencement exercises over than Dr. Rodriguez and his staff began to make preparations for the new school year, which begins in September.

This unique institution was established in 1945 for the express purpose of training young people.

Since then, many scores of dedicated individuals have gone forth as pastors, as teachers, as youth work-

ers, and in various other capacities, to help fulfill the commission as outlined by our Lord and Master.

Because of the poverty which exists in Puerto Rico, students are not able to finance their own schooling. It has been necessary through the years to locate Christian friends in the United States who are willing to underwrite their education.

Persons thus contributing to the support of students for nine consecutive months are known as "Sponsors." They receive a photograph of their student, together with a biographical sketch and written personal testimony and, as the school year advances, regular reports of progress made in the classroom are supplied. Sponsors are requested to pray daily for their students... who reciprocate by remembering their benefactors.

By practicing economy, the Seminary is able to operate at a cost of \$17.50 per student each month. This provides for the basic needs of each pupil, as well as minor incidentals incurred in maintaining the Institution.

Friends wishing to have a part in this missionary effort should use the accompanying blank. Bear in mind, all contributions made to the Defenders of the Christian Faith can be listed as deductible items when computing annual federal income tax reports. Remember, the dollars you invest in Defender missionaries reap precious dividends in eternity!

**Defenders, Inc.
Missionary Department
P.O. Box 601,
Oklahoma City 1, Oklahoma**

Enclosed find \$17.50 to cover the September support of a student in the Defenders Theological Seminary. I will, as God prospers me, send this amount each month of the school year (through May, 1962).

Name _____

Street or R.R. _____

City _____

State _____

August 20, 1961

SILAS — THE DEPENDABLE LEADER**KEY WORD: Silas**

Whether known by his Hebrew name Silas, or by the Greek Silvanus, he was a great man of God. Peter knew him well and called him "a faithful brother." Suffering Christians, dispersed by "the fiery trial" of persecution throughout Asia Minor, loved him for the letter of encouragement he brought them from the Apostle Peter. Silas knew by his own experience what it means to "suffer as a Christian." He was a man of strong faith and indomitable courage.

Silas first appears as a sturdy leader in the Jerusalem Church. (Acts 15:22.) He was chosen to accompany Paul to Antioch on a mission of great importance to the Church. (Read the entire fifteenth chapter of Acts.) Later Paul chose him as a companion for his second evangelistic tour.

Silas was well equipped for this work. He was a Jew, as well as a Roman citizen with a strong Greek background. He was liked and respected in the churches, a good gospel preacher, a dependable helper, and a "right-hand man" to Paul.

Silas was also a prophet — one, who as both preacher and teacher, interpreted God's will to man. He therefore was a perfect example of that "faithful and wise servant" trusted to feeding God's household with the eternal meat of His word. (Matthew 24:45-46.)

KEY VERSE: Acts 16:25

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."

The long slow journey to "turn the world upside down" began with visits to the churches previously established at Derbe, Lystra and Iconium. The decisions of the Jerusalem Council were delivered (Acts 15) and the churches all greatly strengthened in faith and knowledge.

August, 1961

Sunday School Comments

Young Timothy of Lystra was added to the entourage. Under the Holy Spirit's leadership, the group proceeded westward to Troas, a seaport on the Aegean Sea. Here, while pondering the meaning of the Spirit's urgency, Paul saw the vision of a Macedonian man pleading "come over into Macedonia and help us." Joined by Luke, the party departed for Philippi. Landing two days later, the disciples undertook the first step in the gospel's westward march — an evangelical march that was to bring the word of Christ into the four corners of the world.

Paul cast a demon out of a Philippian slave girl and, as a result, he and Silas were arrested, stripped, cruelly beaten and then placed into the stocks of a dungeon. Such an experience would have broken the spirit of lesser men. But not these two! Though painfully locked in their dark crib, they rejoiced "that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name" and prayed and sang praises unto God. Then, at midnight, the cells were miraculously opened. The release of the disciples and the jailer's acceptance of Christ were God's answer to their faithful prayers.

KEY FACT: Every Christian can be a Silas

Dependability was one of Silas' outstanding characteristics. His faith could be counted on — independent of circumstances and environment. God used this faithful brother in the same manner He would use you and me today: to teach His word, to be of spiritual encouragement to others and to turn our particular part of the world upside down through His gospel.

Worst Enemy

The fellow who is his own worst enemy usually insists on carrying the fight to the bitter end.

Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; we ought to be thankful that thorns have roses.

You can't change the past, but you can ruin a perfectly good present worrying about the future.

A man is also known by the company he keeps . . . out of!

August 27, 1961

LYDIA — CHRISTIAN BUSINESS WOMAN**KEY WORD: Lydia**

The Bible has little to say about Lydia. She occupied only 84 words among three verses — Acts 16:14, 15, 40 — but is portrayed there as a remarkable Christian with 12 outstanding characteristics most worthy of our study.

Verse 14 states that she was a Gentile from Thyatira in Asia Minor; she was a well-to-do business woman; she sold expensive, high quality purple dyes; she was a Jewish proselyte who knew the true God; she worshipped God; she was spiritually concerned; she was an intelligent listener.

From verse 15 we know that she was capable of quick decisions; she was a personal worker; she was hospitable; she was determined.

Verse 40 infers that she must have been a courageous woman with strong convictions.

Here was a woman into whose life Christ brought more beauty and color than all the glorious tints of the beautiful dyes she sold.

Her conversion was prophetic of the role which woman was to play in the spreading of the gospel down through the centuries. It further provides us with the pattern for womanly service which counts most for Christ.

KEY VERSE: Acts 16:15

"And when she was baptized . . . she besought us, saying, if ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there."

Paul, "called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ," was bringing a new message to a new continent and was treading upon unfamiliar ground. In Philippi of Macedonia they had found no friends, no Jewish synagogue, nor any Jewish people . . . only a few women, evidently proselytes to Judaism, who knew something of the true and living God, and who met together for prayer each Sabbath.

But spiritual treasure is often found in totally unexpected places, and Paul never missed an opportunity to seek it out.

He found Lydia who, having "attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul," wholeheartedly accepted the Saviour he presented, and immediately won her entire household to Him. Then she opened her home to the evangelistic party, sens-

ing their need for a real home, and refused to take "no" for an answer — "She constrained us."

For a time at least, the infant church met in her home, and so imbued with her spirit were all the members that Paul ever after recalled the church at Philippi with deepest pleasure. In his letter written from prison in Rome years later, he uses the words "joy" and "rejoice" so often that the book of Philippians is called the "joy book" of the Bible.

KEY FACT: Any vocation can count for Christ

Lydia did not change her occupation when she became a Christian, but used every opportunity for serving Him. Regardless of where God places you, He will provide you with the privilege of witnessing. A life dedicated to Him and devoted to good works, shines out like a lamp on a reading-table and can no more be hidden than a city on a hilltop. Jesus says, "Ye are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before

men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16).

Lydia was the first European convert. But she was more than an ordinary convert, as her life typified the greatest possible Christian dedication, and is a perfect example of the "virtuous woman" of Proverbs 31:10-31, who was also a highly intelligent business woman, as well as a gracious wife, mother and homemaker.

LESSON NUMBER THREE

September 3, 1961

TIMOTHY—GUARDIAN OF TRUTH

KEY WORD: Truth

With dramatic unerringness, a child's youthful instruction will determine his future course of action — as well as determine the action of

(From page 13)

when all else fails, branding anyone who calls attention to it an "enemy of public education." It will be interesting to see how they manage to squirm out of the situation which has developed in New York City.

THE N.Y.C. PUBLIC school system has been under the domination of the modern educationists for good many years. Recently, the Superintendent of Schools got into a hassle with the Board of Estimate, which approves or disapproves appropriations for the school system. He wanted more money and the Board was hesitant about giving it to him.

It was in the course of presenting his demands that he made the unconscious revelation about the failure of modern education. What did he want the money for? *For a large batch — over 500 — of remedial reading teachers.* Where were they to be used? In the junior high schools!

There are about 172,000 pupils in these schools, that is in 7th, 8th and 9th grades. The Superintendent declared that no less than 67,000 of them are more than two years behind in reading. That is even worse than it sounds because by the modernists' standards, the measure of ability to read is very, very low. If a student can recognize what they call a basic vocabulary of perhaps less than a thousand words, he is considered "educated" in reading. But the story in New York is even worse.

The superintendent also declared that there are 10,000 students in the 7th grade who cannot read third-grade books. He said that if he did not get the money to hire teachers to teach junior high-school pupils to read, the school system would have to go back to automatic, 100 per cent promotions and say, as the superintendent put it: "To blazes with education, we don't need it."

THIS, TOO, IS VERY revealing. Automatic promotions, regardless of scholastic accomplishment, are another gimmick of the modern educationists. The New York City schools went in for this too, up until three years ago. Then they had to back-track on it somewhat, when they were swamped with senior high school students who could not read or write.

The superintendent said that the schools are now doing something about the "reading problem." But are they? Under pressure from parents, taxpayers and others, the youngsters are now given a smattering of phonics, but not until the second or third grade. In the first grade, when they should be learning the basic elements of reading, it is still "look, look, look; see, see, see." Of course, nothing fundamental about this will ever be done until the modern educationists are swept from control of our school systems.

generations yet unborn. Therefore, to impart truth early is imperative!

Abraham Lincoln attributed what he was to the influence of his "angel mother." Although she died in his early childhood, the impressions she left upon her son served to alter the history of a great nation.

In young Timothy, Paul found a character into which had been instilled "an unfeigned faith which dwelt first in thy mother Eunice." Because of his childhood training, Timothy became a good traveling companion for Paul and a "dearly beloved son in the faith," who stood loyally by him in every need. To him Paul entrusted the continuance of the gospel, charging him to "hold fast the form of sound words." (II Timothy 1:13.)

KEY VERSE: II Timothy 2:2

"The things thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

God's plan for man through Christ was not kept secret, but entrusted to men like Timothy, who have both guarded and faithfully passed it down through the centuries to us.

Now we are the guardian of truth! While Christ tarries, we are to redeem the time by proclaiming the truth and witnessing for Christ, so that others may possess Him who is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

God pronounces woe upon all those who would attempt to add to or change truth—for truth is perfect, and cannot be altered. (Revelation 22:18-19.)

KEY FACT: Truth demands moral muscle

Three vocations illustrate the kind of Christian character Timothy possessed: (1) *The soldier*, pledging to *courageously uphold* the interests of his own country, forgetting personal interests, obeying orders, and fighting his best in battle even at the cost of life itself; (2) *the athlete*, disciplining and constantly training himself, playing the game 100% according to rules; win, lose or draw, competing with flexed muscle and die-hard de-

termination—not giving up until the contest is over; finally, (3) *the farmer*, working long and strenuous hours preparing the ground, sowing the seed, cultivating the plants, and lavishing mother-care over the crop until it has been harvested.

We conclude then that the Christian life is not a matter of self-indulgence, but of constant struggle. Moral muscle is not acquired through liquor and lust, cheating and chicanery, sophistry and sham. Let no one think he will "be carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease." God did not plan it that way! He wants fighters, not failures!

We can be comforted as we obey Paul's challenge to Timothy, "to hold fast the form of sound words," for we have the assurance of the eventual fruit of our labors and of our own personal reward: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (I Corinthians 15:58).

LESSON NUMBER FOUR

September 10, 1961

AQUILA AND PRISCILLA — ABLE TEACHERS

KEY WORD: Helpers

Aquila and Priscilla had "lately come from Italy" because an emperor's edict had forced all Jews to leave. Finding refuge in Corinth they set up a tentmaking business where Paul found work, "because he was of the same craft he abode with them and wrought."

Whether they had learned of the gospel prior to their contact with Paul is not known. But we can be sure he lost no time in broaching the subject. The message sank deep into receptive hearts, and they became his "helpers in Christ Jesus, both in Corinth and in Ephesus."

Priscilla and Aquila were serious students of the Scriptures. Her teaching ability was equal to his. When they met Apollos in Ephesus they taught him the "way of God more perfectly."

KEY VERSE: Acts 18:26

"Whom, when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly."

Hearing Apollos preaching "the baptism of John," Aquila and Priscilla immediately recognized his great power and dedication, but with the realization that his message was incomplete. He had never known Jesus nor come in contact with the full gospel. Without hesitation they invited him to be a guest in their home.

One can imagine the eager and fiery young preacher sitting before this humble and consecrated couple, drinking in their expositions of the Scriptures until the glorious plan of God's redemptive purpose in Christ Jesus unfolded to his enraptured gaze in a burst of divine glory.

From that moment no other message ever passed his lips. Nor did he need a course in theology at the Jerusalem Bible Seminary! He had a message! "For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was Christ." Now he understood the meaning of the types, symbols, and prophecies of the Old Testament. From henceforth he "saw no man, save Jesus only!"

KEY FACT: God's gifts should glorify Him

Aquila and Priscilla, humble though they were, could and did glorify God in the church through the help they gave Paul and Apollos. They enabled both preachers to witness more effectively. True in their friendship, they even risked their own lives for Paul.

Another contribution made to the church lay in their genuine hospitality. Not only was their home opened to the ministers but to the entire church. (Romans 16:4-5.)

Paul urged the Hebrew Christians "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Hebrews 13:2). Blessed is the family that opens its doors to God's ministers and humble workers.

"If Only We Had Joined Hands Before It Was Too Late"

FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, Christian leaders and laymen alike have felt the need for pinpointing the gospel to the individual — **personal witnessing**. They believe, of course, that public preaching has its ordained place, but while a sermon largely serves to scatter the "shot," in personal witnessing, one can take direct aim.

A pastor can multiply himself by as many soul winners as he can recruit and train in the congregation. For example, a young man of our acquaintance organized a soul-winning class among the young people in his church on the Pacific Coast. Within three months, this class of 20 led over 100 persons to a decision for Christ. Each person in the class multiplied himself five times. Let our churches get a vision of this kind of activity and the possibilities are endless.

As a matter of record, the growth of the church down through the centuries has not only been the work of the preacher, like Peter, but represents also the efforts of the personal worker, like Andrew. For instance, John Staupitz, an unknown monk, led Luther to Christ. The name of John Egglan, who led Spurgeon to the Saviour, and of Edward Kimball, who was the means of Moody's conversion, are unfamiliar to most people. Nevertheless, their part in the work of the kingdom has been indispensable.

What did Jesus say? "To every man his work." There is a niche for every believer to fill, and the composite efforts of preacher and layman alike must be toward one end: winning men and women to Christ.

THERE IS NOTHING optional about this matter of every believer a witness. **It is our supreme imperative!** The blunt truth is that the Christian church has failed to keep pace with contending external forces. The church, as observers point out, is falling behind on three fronts.

The first front is world population. The world is increasing at the rate of 44 million a year — faster than the church can evangelize it.

The second front is worsening human affairs — the state of world confusion, the ominous threat of global conflict and the mounting tensions and internal disorders within nations.

The third front is world religions. Ensnaring world religions are making tremendous strides in every country of the world. In French West Africa, government statistics indicate that Islam is gaining 14 converts to its faith for every one convert to Christianity.

And there is Communism — not only a political ideology, but an anti-God, anti-Christian religion. Like all religions, Communism has world vision and is drawing more and more people into its ranks.

WE ARE INDEED losing the race against world population, world conditions and world religions. **Reader friend**, hold the picture of this fact before you and ask yourself, if there is anything optional about this matter of being a witness for Christ.

One evening years ago, in the province of Alberta, Canada, a happy father and mother went out for a stroll through a nearby wheatfield with their little boy. As they wandered through the field, engrossed with the scene, each thought the other held the hand of their child. All at once they realized that the boy was not with them. They called, but there was no answer. They became more and more disturbed, then terrified, and hunted everywhere with no results.

Finally, the father went back to the village and got a searching party to assist them. Many willing villagers searched all night without avail. After many hours, someone finally suggested that they join hands, cover the entire grainfield and not leave a single square foot uncovered in this last effort.

They joined hands and soon came across the body of the child, and a hush spread over them all, because they had found the child too late. As the group stood there in silence, with bowed heads, someone was heard to whisper, "If only we had joined hands before it was too late." —GSP

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